

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A locator device comprising

an elongate member, said elongate member having a distal opening and a proximal opening which are connected by a lumen,

said elongate member being adapted to extend into a blood vessel of a patient such that said distal opening is located in the lumen of the blood vessel and such that blood flow through said proximal opening is visible outside of the patient's body, and

said device being provided with an occlusion member located distally of said distal opening, said occlusion member being capable of substantially blocking blood flow out of said blood vessel when it is withdrawn from said blood vessel lumen.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein said occlusion member is releasably coupled to said elongate member.

3. (Original) The device of claim 2 wherein said occlusion member is expandable.

4. (Original) The device of claim 2 wherein said occlusion member is bioabsorbable.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of installing a closure device adjacent to, but outside of a puncture in a blood vessel wall comprising the steps of

introducing an elongate member through a tract extending from said puncture to the patient's skin, said elongate member having a first opening in its distal region, a second opening in its proximal region and a lumen extending between said first opening and said second opening, said elongate member being provided with an occlusion member located distally of said first opening,

advancing said elongate member until said first opening is located within the lumen of said blood vessel such that blood flows into said first opening [and not out of said second opening], and

withdrawing said elongate member until the flow of blood into said first opening is substantially prevented.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein said occluding member is releasably coupled to said elongate member and said occluding member is released from said elongate member.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said occluding member is released ~~of~~ at substantially the same time that blood flow into said first opening is substantially prevented.

8. (New) The method of claim 6 wherein said occluding member is released at a predetermined distance from the point at which blood flow into said first opening is substantially prevented.

9. (New) A locator device comprising

an elongated member having a first opening in its distal region, a second opening in its proximal region and a lumen extending between said first opening and said second opening;

an occlusion member attached to the distal region of said elongated member such that said occlusion member is distally from said first opening;

said elongate member being adapted to extend into a blood vessel of a patient such that said occlusion member is fully inserted into the lumen of said blood vessel and said second opening is located in the lumen of the blood vessel such that blood flow through said proximal opening is visible outside of the patient's body, and said occlusion member is capable of substantially blocking the blood flow out of said blood vessel when said occlusion member is withdrawn from the lumen of said blood vessel.